DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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PORTIONS DENIED AS INDICATED

EXCISE

Wednesday, January 1, 1958

Snow fell during the night, and continued this morning. There was a sufficient volume to allow the children to build large snowmen [redacted] frightening to the spaniels, who cautiously circled these monsters and yelped.

E, Sasha and I took a long walk. David Thomson brought out some telegrams, and Hillenbrand read me the text of a GDR pronouncement that included reference to my train. It said there would be no interference with my travel, since I was, when in Berlin, there in my capacity as "High Commissioner of the U. S. Occupation Power".

Events here must have ruined the Christmas and New Year holidays of members of the German Division in the Department. They have been [redacted] good about responding promptly to all our requests. As regards the local Mission, Martin and his associates have been [redacted] effective, and conscientious to the last degree.

[redacted]

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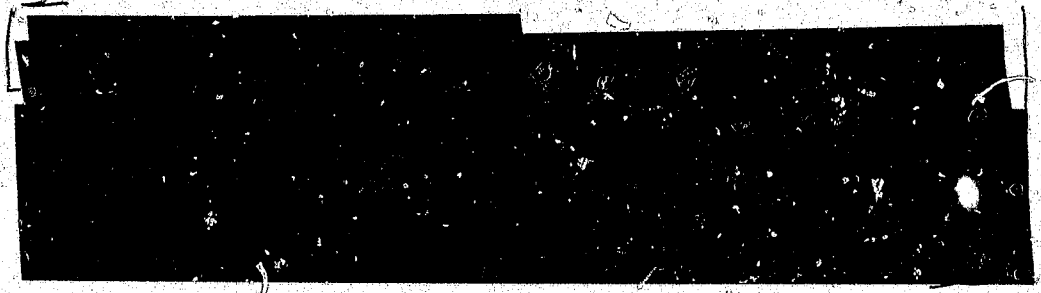
EXCISE



EC

Harry Schwartz telephoned me from Bonn to report on tripartite conversations there. Peter Wilkinson, of the British Embassy, having already cleared two American drafts on a reply to the Soviet Chargé d'Affaire's letter through his Foreign Office, refused to submit a third one today (this was the State Department's proposal), saying his code room was closed, and it could wait until tomorrow. Apparently, he was quite caustic - I don't much blame him, for our system of clearances, drafts and re-drafts, is often irritating.

The snow continues to pour down this afternoon in large soft flakes, and this great city is unbelievably quiet, with almost no street traffic. We livened things up at home by giving the three seven-month old puppies their first bath, as well as one to Carlos, who last suffered such an indignity in July.

Martin came to see me this afternoon. I sent a short telegram to Washington suggesting that, since GDR Deputy Foreign Minister Winzor's radio interview seemed clear as to continuance of our "recognized travel", and, since a calm atmosphere now prevails

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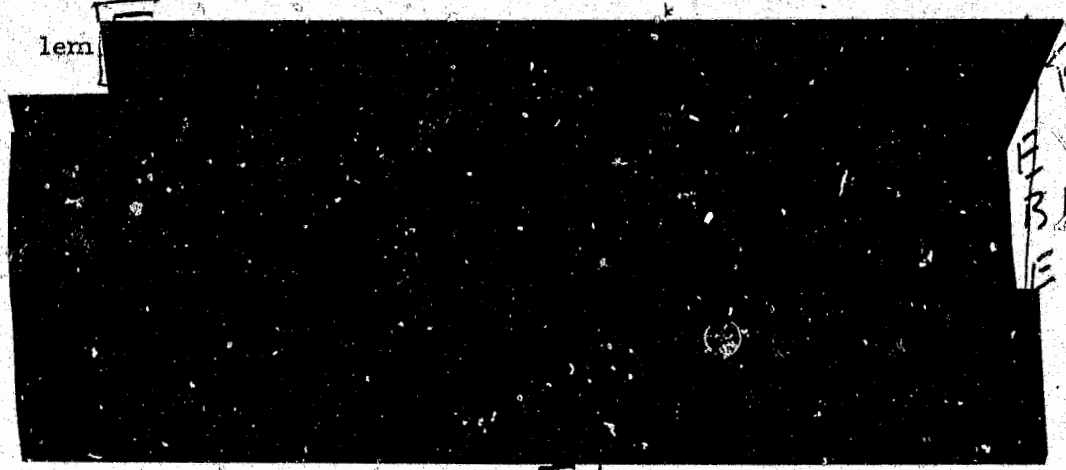
[illegible] EXCISE FC

I have tried to have it replaced by a cheaper but new car. That is considered infradig, so we lumber along in this dangerous and used-up vehicle, that has surpassed in mileage even what taxi drivers in the most rural parts of America would accept. These same Congressmen, in spite of the difference of opinions about the utility of an aircraft carrier, will supinely vote for the building of each such carrier when its cost is in excess of the whole annual appropriation of the State Department, and then question every item of the latter's request for funds.

One acre is equal, I am told, to 43,500 square meters, and one acre is approximately four-tenths of an hectare.

After this excursion, we went to the office, where I talked to Martin Hillenbrand about Soviet defectors, a not infrequent problem [redacted]



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An hour later, we were guests of Brandt and his attractive Norwegian wife - his second from that country - at a New Year's

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EXCISE (E)

This morning I had a chat with Hallstein about his new appointment. He told me (which I knew from Monnet) he had not wanted or expected it, but when he was named felt, as a convinced European, he could not decline it.

Claude de Kemoularia, Deputy to Dag Hammarskjold, came to see me. I had known him years ago in Paris. He is touring Western Europe drumming up contributions for Harry Labouisse's UNWRA. The U. S. supplies 24 million dollars or about 70% of the required funds to sustain at a low level of subsistence the 900,000 Arab refugees. He has asked the Federal Republic for a donation of the equivalent of one and a half million dollars. I hope they give it, but doubt it. It is essential to keep this operation going, and if possible to amplify it. These refugees constitute a problem that can only be termed "explosive"

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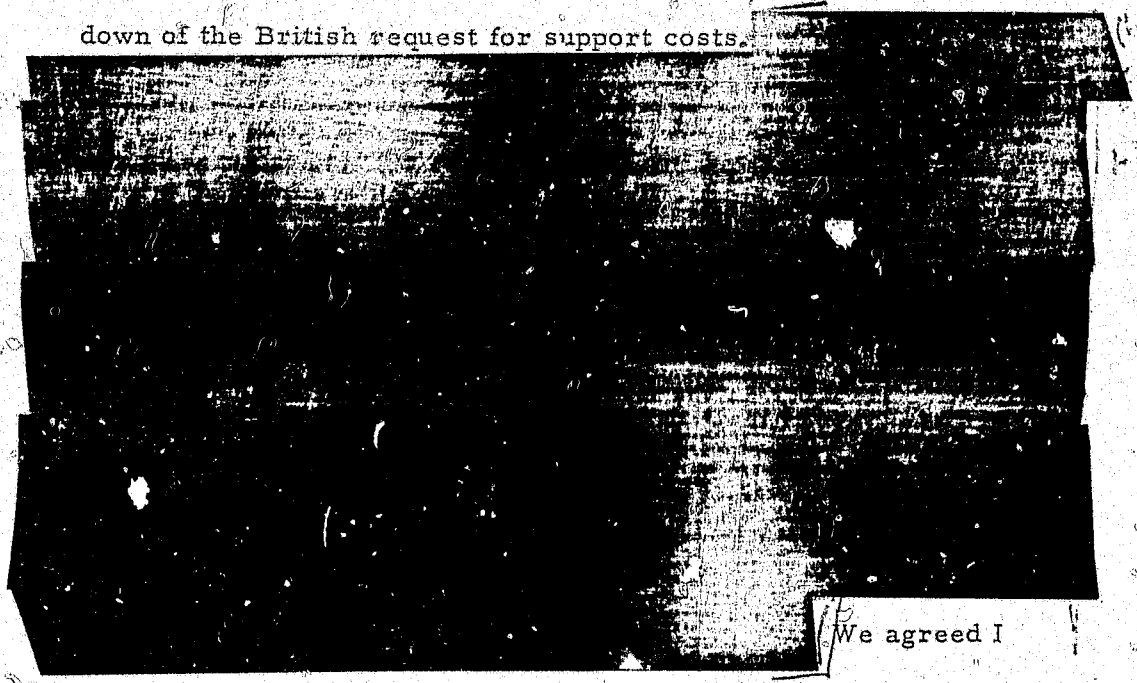
replacement has yet been found for Hallstein, but there is to be quite a movement in different ambassadorial posts. According to him, Kiesinger has refused either to take Hallstein's place or to become Ambassador in Washington. Professor Grewe is said to covet the latter post, but is in the grip of marital difficulties, so one does not know what will occur. The Ambassador in Moscow is seriously ill and will have to be replaced. Altogether, there is a shortage of trained personnel to deal with foreign affairs.

Kit Steel came to see me, gravely concerned over the breakdown of the British request for support costs.



We agreed I would discuss this matter discreetly in Paris tomorrow with the US NATO representatives.

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